

BLUES TOP SECTION 'A'

By **STUART EARP** Marlow 0, Wycombe Wanderers 4

BY beating Marlow 4-0 on Thursday night, Wycombe Wanderers added the Section A title of the Premier Midweek Floodlight League to their considerable list of honours this season. Whether the midweek league will be able to play off the section winners next term remains to be seen, but the Blues are expected to receive some sort of memento for topping the section.

As Wanderers cannot be caught on points now, Banbury, their closest rivals, are unlikely to play their remaining match at home to Wokingham. This will leave Wycombe five points clear at the top.

Thursday's game hardly ended the season with a bang. Constant drizzle throughout the first half made life miserable for players and spectators alike and as a result of the downpour, the match was riddled with errors from both sides.

Marlow, who have struggled throughout the season in the All-Irish League Division One, looked desperately weak. The defence is sound enough but in midfield and upfront they just ambled around with no-one running off the ball to relieve the pressure on the back four. Pick of the team was veteran Peter Sewell, a former Wanderer who looked a class above the rest.

One bright spot in a dull evening was the performance of Wycombe's Graham Mackenzie. Looking as though he had played all season alongside Larry Pritchard, these two link-

ed well throughout the 90 minutes.

Using the off-side trap effectively in the first half, Marlow restricted the visitors to just a handful of chances in an uninspiring first 45 minutes. The only goal of the half came in the 39th minute.

Tony Price sent over a deep cross from the right which Geoff Dobner could only punch out as far as Evans. Dylan, who up to this point could hardly put a foot right, slipped one player before driving a powerful shot into the roof of the net.

Two goals in the first ten minutes of the second period sealed the verdict for Wycombe. Paul Griffiths, who looked a good prospect at full back, made the second goal with a fine through ball to Evans, who

slipped a pass inside for Mick Holfield to rifle home. Then in the 54th minute Holfield robbed Alan Harrison and crossed into the box for Evans to screw in a header which Pete Stone could only help over the line.

Just on full time Larry Pritchard added the fourth goal when he picked up a through ball which once again split Marlow's defence and chipped over the helpless Dobner from a narrow angle.

MARLOW: G. Dobner; I. Shiel; P. Sewell; P. Stone; M. McCauley; C. Reid; M. Page; A. Harrison; R. Palmer; D. Hall; P. Edmonds. Subs R. Shepherd and A. Chapman (not used).

WYCOMBE: K. Raine; P. Griffiths; K. Mead; D. Bullock; R. Grant; G. Mackenzie; P. Wood; M. Holfield; L. Pritchard; D. Evans; A. Price. Subs A. Horseman and K. Searle (not used).

Referee: D. Reeves (Denham).



GRAHAM MACKENZIE
... linked well

DELANEY JOINS OLD TEAM-MATES

FORMER Wycombe Wanderers skipper John Delaney will be meeting up with his former team-mates tomorrow (Saturday) when the club fly off for a ten day tour of Cyprus. John is one of four guest players in the party.

Delaney left Wanderers at the end of last season to turn professional with Bournemouth and after a series of injuries

eventually established himself in the first team towards the end of the season. Speculation about John rejoining his old club next season is unfounded for he is almost certain to fulfill his contract with the Third Division side.

The three other guests in the party are Ray Eaton, the Enfield and England left back, Howard Kennedy and Julian Lailey.

Kennedy played seven games for Burnley Reserves this season and was offered professional terms with two clubs. However, he is taking up a teaching appointment in High Wycombe later in the year and decided against it. Aged 22, he has had experience with Leeds United as an amateur. Julian Lailey won several England caps when with Wycombe and demonstrated his

talents recently when Cheltenham Town drew 1-1 in a friendly against the Blues.

Wanderers will be playing three matches, the first against Hapoel, a second division side, followed by Greek League club Fanagusta who were champions last year. The final game is against a Cyprus XI, which manager Brian Lee expects to be of a similar standard to a Foot-

ball League, Division Two club.

The full Wycombe Wanderers party is; J. Maskell, K. Raine, T. Reardon, G. Mackenzie, A. Price, D. Evans, K. Searle, A. Horseman, M. Holfield, K. Mead, S. Perrin, H. Kennedy, J. Lailey, J. Delaney, R. Eaton, B. Lee, J. Reardon, J. Sheppard, J. Smethurst, B. Crump, R. Hart, T. Thomas, J. Goldsworthy and G. Cox.